PARK BELL

ST. MARY'S PARK IMPROVEMENT CLUB

Greetings Friends & Neighbors! ¡Bienvenidos! Mabuhay! Bon Giorno! 您好

2966 DIAMOND STREET • SUITE 121 • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94131

August, 1999

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

August is the month of vacations. Well, for some people. While I have no current plans for a vacation, we are taking a bit of a vacation here with the newsletter. It's one page so that all of us on the Club Executive Board can enjoy the few hours of sunshine between the fog banks.

ILLEGAL SHACK UPDATE. Thanks to the many neighbors who wrote letters complaining about the illegal "warehouse" that was built in the backyard at 114 Crescent. There is a Building Permit Department Director's Hearing scheduled for 8/19 at 10 AM at 1616 Mission Street, Room 2001. This building (and other violators) will be discussed and acted upon. Any neighbors who would like to attend and voice your opinion about this illegal addition to that house are strongly encouraged to attend.

And, if you are on the Neighborhood Parks Council mailing list, look for their next newsletter. It spotlights St. Mary's Park (the park) & us (the Club). Thanks to Herb Smith & Bill Fossett for their assistance in that article.

Jonna Ramey

Park Updates

If you've been down to the park at all in the last few weeks, you've seen the Rec&Park guys up on the gym roof scrambling around like monkeys. What a job! They're moving quickly on the roof. They uncovered dry rot on the north side of the building, which we assume they will be fixing. If you have a chance, stop by and thank them for their good work.

Rec&Park did get its Renaissance money. A portion of it is earmarked for completion of the dog park. The project is slated to take place during fiscal year 2000. Stay tuned.

President Jonna Ramey & Finance Officer Danna Peterson met with Rec&Park staff, a representative from GameTime (manufacturer of play structures) and folks from 2 other parks. The whole focus of the meeting was how to fast-track play area updates for parks. The Club will be submitting a small grant proposal to Rec&Park as well as other funding sources. Our goal is to get the structures revamped before Louisa Fossett's kids are in high school. (As funny as this seems, for many neighborhoods, it has taken that many years to revamp their park play area. With our partnership with Rec&Park and GameTime, we're planning to speed up the process.)

Piano For Sale

Beautiful Kimball upright piano, solid black walnut with bench. 25 years old, hardly used for 20 of those years. Asking $975. Payments OK. If interested call Diane & Charlie 648-3312.

Mark Your Calendars – Club Picnic Sept 26th

This year's Fall Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 26 from noon to 3. 49er fans don't need to worry, our picnic doesn't conflict with any game dates. So, plan on bringing your family down to the park for an afternoon of good food, great games, raffles and the cake walk. Interested in helping with the picnic? Call Jonna at 285-7425 or email her at jramey@quartetcreative.com.

Calling All Seniors for Club's Aug. 10th Meeting

Shelle Martin from Senior Central will speak at the Club's next meeting. Senior Central is a one-stop neighborhood resource for senior information and is part of the City's Commission on the Aging. Senior Central provides free info & referrals on issues like around-the-house repairs, transportation, food & meal sites, recreation, volunteering and much more. If you are a senior or you have an elder neighbor who may need assistance, come to our August 10th meeting (7:30 PM) to learn more. Raffle, refreshments and fun!

SUNSHINE CORNER

By Armando Pulido

I'll start this month's column with a big **hello** to Tom & Patrick. Thanks for being such great neighbors. And, **congratulations** to Sam & Suzanne on your one year anniversary here in St. Mary's. Your landscape looks great. **Hang in there,** Mabel Riechmann. We hope everything is OK. **Hello** and how are you doing to Barbara Phipps and her mother. **Hello** also to long time neighbors Manuel & Teresita Simpliciano, down at the bottom of College. **Happy anniversary** to George & Dennis, who have been together how many years? Wishing the Martinez family all the best, we hope to find you all in **good health** over at 30 Justin. Norma Travaglini, we hope you're **feeling better** as each day passes. And, finally, **hello** to Tony & Betty Rodriguez. How's the family?

If you know a neighbor who could you a cheerful note, call Armando at 239-4221.

SAINT MARY'S PARK IMPROVEMENT CLUB MINUTES OF July 13, 1999

Submitted by Mary Ramirez, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Jonna Ramey. Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of June 8, 1999, were approved as published in the newsletter. Officers present were: President Jonna Ramey, Vice President Scott Feldman, Secretary Mary Ramirez, Sergeant at Arms Florence Kolos. Absent were Finance Officer Danna Peterson and Sunshine Person Armando Pulido.

President Ramey announced that Marcia Ashe has been appointed Capt. of the Ingleside Station. Capt. Rick Bruce is being assigned to the TACT squad. Capt. Bruce said that during his tenure he has found SMPIC supportive and non-demanding. He said he will miss us. He stated that he has every confidence in Capt. Ashe, and that we can expect everything she can do for us to be done. She has 18 years experience as night captain in the City.

Finance report was read by President Ramey who reported that we have a balance of $6,002.00 and 184 paid members. President Ramey reported that progress on the gym roof has been stalled, and she will phone for an update. She reported that the huge, ugly shack at 114 Crescent has been tagged a second time by the Code Enforcement Division of the Bldg. Permits Dept. for not having an appropriate permit. Members were encouraged to write or email letters to Caesar Ascarrunz and the Dept. of Permits in opposition.

Jim Aldrich from the Office of Emergency Services gave an informative presentation on Y2K and why we should be prepared because of the date change, power, and emergency response. Extra Y2K brochures will be available at the next Club meeting. Anyone wanting a copy, please phone Mary Ramirez at 585-6270. Erik Poole spoke about Y2K preparedness and said one has to be aware and avoid Y2K scams.

A member reported that a house was burglarized on Murray Street, another reported that someone has been trying to get into homes through pushing on garage doors.

Three raffle prizes were awarded: "Grumpy Old Men," "Field of Dreams," See Candies and a beautiful bouquet of flowers in a vase from Neil Rhoads's garden. Approximately 24 members signed in. Refreshments were served.

Note: The August Club meeting was not held because the Rec. Center was closed.

ST. MARY'S PARK CRIME WATCH

There were some ugly incidents in August — mostly thefts and burglaries. There were burglaries at 55 Murray and 83 Benton, and a theft from 273 Justin. Thefts from cars included one in front of 50 College. The good news was that stolen property was recovered from the 83 Benton theft.

Has your block had a safe watch meeting lately? Call your block captain and get together. Watch out for your neighbors. And always report any suspicious persons or incidents to the police.

SUNSHINE CORNER

By Armando Pulido

Condolences...

I'm sorry to report that Frank General has passed away on August 21st. Frank was a long time St. Mary's resident, native San Franciscan and retired police officer. He is survived by his wife Mary of 57 years. He also has 10 neices and nephews. May he rest in peace.

Congratulations...

to the newlyweds — Karen and Jay who married on July 16th.

Hello...

to Hans and Lynnette Ruud. Hope you are enjoying the grand children.

Erlinda Strand, you're quite a Picasso! Those frogs look great now that they have a fresh coat of paint.

Thanks for being such great friends, Tony & Betty Rodriguez.

And, finally, **welcome** to new neighbors at #2 Agnon — Erin McCalla and Rick Pinheiro.

Editor's note: If you have a note for the Sunshine Corner, call Armando at 239-4221.

Fall Picnic – Sept. 26

We're finally into our warm season. And, that's picnic time! This year's Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 26 from noon to 3pm. Bring your family down to the park for an afternoon of good food, races & games, raffles and the cake walk. The Club will supply the dogs & burgers, soft drinks, chips and paper goods. Please bring a dish to share. Bring your dollars to enter the cake walk or participate in the raffles. We'll hold an adult raffle and a kid's raffle. Kid's prizes include a girl's bike and a boy's prize. (All raffle tickets $1) We're also going to hold a book exchange. Bring a book (or several) to trade with a neighbor. Interested in helping with the picnic? Call Jonna at 285-7425.

President's Garden Awards

Three yards in the neighborhood have been greatly improved in the last couple of months and deserve our recognition. 39 Agnon has just installed new sod. It's a beautiful addition to the block. And, two grand homes that sit opposite each other have much improved landscapes: 1 Justin and 260 College. These are two of the most difficult yards to maintain because of their size and slope. Great job!

Park Updates

Kid's Play Area. Thank you to all the neighbors who signed our petitions! We had hundreds of signatures. We submitted our proposal for Phase I of the kid's play area upgrade to Rec. & Park on August 31. This would demolish all existing play structures and build a state-of-the-art main play structure and swing set. This month, we'll be submitting a second proposal to Friends of Rec. & Park to build a play structure for younger kids. The goal is to have all the new play structures in by August of 2000! We'll keep you posted.

Gym Roof. The roof & dry rot repair work continues. Rec. Center supervisors tell us the entire project should be completed by the end of September. We assume this also includes refinishing the damaged parts of the gym floor as well.

Dog Park. Rec&Park did get its money to finish out the dog park. The project is slated to take place during fiscal year 2000.

Double Bill for Sept. 14 Club Meeting

Last month, the Rec. Center was closed so we'll have 2 speakers for this months meeting. Shelle Martin from Senior Central and Charles Higgins from the Campaign for Better Parks will both speak.

Senior Central is a one-stop neighborhood resource for senior information and is part of the City's Commission on the Aging. Senior Central provides free info & referrals on issues like around-the-house repairs, transportation, food & meal sites, recreation, volunteering and much more. If you are a senior or you have an elder neighbor who may need assistance, come to our Sept. 14 meeting (7:30 PM) to learn more.

The Campaign for Better Parks & the Neighborhood Parks Council are attempting to put a measure on the March 2000 ballot that would benefit parks throughout the City. Charles Higgins will speak about their initiative.

Raffles, refreshments and fun!

HANDYMAN

Scott Hill on Justin Drive is offering his services as a handyman at a discounted rate to St. Mary's Park residents. Painting, light plumbing, shelves, etc. No job too small. Call Scott at 585-9064.

WINDOW FOR SALE

Brand new, double-glazed, double-hung, white vinyl window. 48 1/4" X 53 1/2". Fits large bedroom window (but not small bedroom). Will sell at discount. Call Elizabeth at 824-2070.

Any Giants Fans?????

If interested in getting together to buy and split SF Giants season tickets for next year at Pac Bell Park, please call Pam at 585-5156. Hurry....time is running out!

PARKING UPDATE

The SF Police Department is having a meeting on 9/21 at 7:00pm at the Ingleside Station. This meeting will address parking issues in St. Mary's Park. Come one, come all!!!

CLUB PICNIC SEPTEMBER 26!!! NOON — 3PM!!! AT ST. MARY'S REC CENTER

ALL WELCOME!!! BRING A DISH TO SHARE!!! WE'LL HAVE THE REST!!!

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